**Syllabus**

**World History**

2014-2015

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This class will probably be different from any other you have taken. If the dissemination of expert knowledge is the model of teaching that you are used to, it is not going to work here; no one is an expert in world civilization. The instructor offers guidance in how to read texts, how to ask questions and approach problems, and how to formulate a convincing argument based on primary evidence; but what you get out of the class is up to you.

**Texts:**

Miller, Sue, ed. *World History*. Austin: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2005.

Beck, Roger B., ed. *World History: Patterns of Interaction.* Orlando: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt,

2012.

*Readings in World History.* Austin: Holt Rinehart and Winston, 2005.

**Course Objectives:** Upon completion of this course you will:

1. Know how to conduct research from a variety of sources and provide accurate citation using the Chicago Manual of Style.
2. Be able to identify and explain the major events of world history and how they influenced human interaction.
3. Evaluate the influence of geography on political, economic and religious systems.
4. Explain the influence of religion on political and economic systems.
5. Compare and contrast economic and political systems.
6. Analyze the development of class status.
7. Evaluate the relationship between territorial expansion and the world concept of national power.
8. Describe the importance of raw materials and how they led to the establishment of global spheres of influence.
9. Form and defend opinions during detailed class discussions.

**Grading:** Your final grade will consist of the following means of assessment:

1. Class participation and discussion throughout the school year.
2. Tests containing completion, matching, multiple choice and short answer questions.
3. Physical & Political geography quizzes.
4. Reflections of class discussion, videos and selected readings.
5. Creative presentations using various media resources.

**Tentative Course Schedule**

**Unit 1 – Introduction to World History (3 Weeks)**

**\*** How are the forces of world history guided by geography and ideology?

**Unit 2 - Global Colonialism 1450-1750 (3 Weeks)**

**\*** How did European colonialism change its relationship with colonized

nations and other European nations?

**Unit 3 - Imperialism and the Global Balance of Power: 1750-1914 (6 weeks)**

**\*** What social, political and economic factors lead nations to expand and

interact with others; how does this interaction change the global balance of power?

**Unit 4 - Changing Global Balance of Power: 1914-1989 (16 Weeks)**

**\*** How did the Global balance of power change between 1914 to 1989?

**Unit 5 - Contemporary Global Society: 1989-Current (8 Weeks)**

**\*** How have the opposing forces of national identity shaped the dynamic

of world history since1989?